

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02  
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R 181113Z JAN 77  
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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
USINT BAGHDAD

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 0369

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, IS, EG,JO  
SUBJECT: SADAT-HUSSEIN STATEMENT: ISRAELI NEWSPAPERS' REACTIONS

1. ISRAELI NEWSPAPERS ARE AT ODDS IN THEIR ANALYSES  
OF THE SADAT-HUSSEIN STATEMENT ISSUED JANUARY 15. IN  
ITS MORNING EDITORIAL JANUARY 16, DAVAR (HISTADRUT) STATES  
THAT SADAT SCORED AN IMPORTANT POINT IN THE JOINT STATE-  
MENT--IT AFFIRMS JORDANIAN ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRICIPLE  
OF A PALESTINIAN STATE, TOGETHER WITH JORDANIAN WILLINGNESS  
TO PARTICIPATE IN GENEVA AND TO RECOGNIZE THE PLO AS THE  
SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIANS. DAVAR,  
BASING ITS COMMENT ON WHAT FAHMY REPORTEDLY SAID, NOTES  
THAT THE REFERENCE TO A FORMAL LINK BETWEEN THE NEW STATE  
AND JORDAN WAS NOT TO BE TAKEN AS A BINDING CONDITION  
FOR JORDANIAN AGREEMENT TO THE ABOVE POINTS. THIS  
INTERPRETATION (COMMENT: WHICH APPEARS TO US TO  
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REFLECT A QUITE LITERAL READING OF THE COMMUNIQUE)  
IS NOT SHARED BY AL HAMISHMAR (MAPAM) IN ITS JANUARY  
16 EDITORIAL. AL HAMISHMAR: "THE JOINT STATEMENT  
STRESSING THE PRICIPLE OF A PALESTINIAN STATE APPEARS  
TO BE A TACTIC TO APPEASE THE PLO BY SEEMING TO SUB-  
JECT KING HUSSEIN TO INTER-ARAB PRESSURE.IN FACT  
THE STATEMENT SHOULD BE SEEN AS A CONTINUATION OF THE

TREND TO NULLIFY THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RABAT RESOLUTIONS, WHILE PAYING LIP-SERVICE TO THEM AND DETRACTING FROM THE STATUS OF THE PLO BY ALTERING ITS IMAGE AND COMPOSITION FROM WITHIN."

2. MAARIV (INDEPENDENT) IN A JANUARY 16 EDITORIAL AND IN A JANUARY 17 COMMENTARY (GRANOTT) SPECULATES THAT SADAT MUST HAVE PAID A SECRET PRICE FOR KING HUSSEIN'S AGREEMENT ON REFERENCES TO A PALESTINIAN STATE, GENEVA CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION, AND THE PLO AS SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN ARAB PEOPLE. SADAT MAY HAVE GIVEN SECRET AGREEMENT TO (WHAT AMOUNTS TO) A FEDERATION BETWEEN JORDAN AND THE WEST BANK OR, IN VIEW OF ISRAEL'S VETO OF PLO PARTICIPATION AT GENEVA, SADAT AND HUSSEIN MAY HAVE PRIVATELY AGREED THAT JORDAN WOULD "TEMPORARILY" NEGOTIATE FOR THE WEST BANK. IF KING HUSSEIN HAS COM-promised BY AGREEING TO GO TO GENEVA DESPITE THE PRESENCE OF A SEPARATE PLO DELEGATION, MAARIV SAYS, THEN EGYPT MUST BE URGING THE PLO TO EMBARK ON CONTACTS WITH JORDAN NOW IN ORDER TO COORDINATE POSITIONS.

3. YEDIOT AHARONOT (INDEPENDENT) IN A JANUARY 17 COMMENTARY (GUINEY) SEES A COMPROMISE STRUCK BETWEEN SADAT AND KING HUSSEIN, WITH THE JORDANIANS ACCEDING TO A PALESTINIAN STATE IN EXCHANGE FOR OFFICIAL LINKS BETWEEN IT AND JORDAN. THE SCENARIO OUTLINED IS THAT THE PLO ACCEPTS THE SUGGESTION OF ESTABLISHING A PALESTINIAN STATE IN THE WEST BANK AND THE GAZA STRIP;  
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ISRAEL VACATES THESE TERRITORIES; SHORTLY AFTERWARDS A REFERENDUM IS CALLED AND THE MAJORITY DECIDES ON A FEDERAL OF CONFEDERAL LINK WITH JORDAN. THIS LEAVES EVERYBODY HAPPY. AND TO SWEETEN THE PILL FOR ISRAEL, SADAT WILL TELL THE AMERICANS THAT ISRAEL WANTED JORDAN'S CUSTODIANSHIP OF THE PALESTINIAN STATE TO PREVENT IT BECOMING A RADICAL PRO-SOVIET OR PRO-CHINESE BASE. THIS WISH WILL BE GRANTED TO THE ISRAELIS, SADAT WILL CONTEND, BUT LIP SERVICE MUST BE PAID TO THE PALESTINIAN RIGHTS TO SELF-DETERMINATION. THE PLAN, YEDIOT SAYS, IS INTERESTING AND COULD SUCCEED.

4. THE JERUSALEM POST IN ITS JANUARY 17 EDITORIAL TAKES NOTE OF TWO VIEWS OF THE ASWAN STATEMENT, ONE WHICH ENHANCES THE PLO'S POSITION AND ONE WHICH DIMINISHES IT. IN EITHER CASE, HOWEVER, "A PALESTINIAN STATE, WHATEVER ITS EVENTUAL LINKAGE TO JORDAN, IS TAILOR-MADE TO DENY ISRAEL ITS RIGHTS TO SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BOUNDARIES AND TO A RELATIONSHIP OF GOOD-NEIGHBORLI-

NESS WITH THE ARABS OF THE ADMINISTERED TERRITORIES. IT IS THEREFORE WHOLLY AND COMPLETELY INADMISSIBLE, AND IT RULES OUT ANY POSSIBILITY OF A TERRITORIAL TRADE-OFF BY ISRAEL."

5. THE JERUSALEM POST JANUARY 18 TAGS ONTO THE END OF ITS STORY ON WALDHEIM'S UPCOMING TRIP A FEW PARAGRAPHS CITING "OFFICIALS IN JERUSALEM" AS SAYING THAT THERE IS NO POINT FOR OFFICIAL REACTION TO ASAD'S TIME INTERVIEW SINCE THERE HAVE BEEN A VARIETY OF ARAB STATEMENTS LATELY AND THESE NEED TO BE STUDIED. ADDITIONAL COMMENT IN OTHER NEWSPAPERS JANUARY 18 IS SPARSE.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009